

# Public Lands in Utah

Selected policies and events, 2012-2019



## 2012-2013

Legislature [enacts](#) the Transfer of Public Lands Act and [directs](#) Utah's [Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office \(PLPCO\)](#) to conduct a study of the transfer of federal lands to state ownership.



## 2015

CSPL hires outside legal counsel and public relations firms.

Outside legal counsel presents its [legal analysis](#) that summarizes Utah's legal case against the federal government and steps to facilitate the transfer of federal lands to the state.



## 2017

Legislature [urges](#) the President to rescind the Bears Ears National Monument and [requests](#) a modification to the boundaries of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.

Legislature [asserts](#) commitment to remaining a public lands state.

President modifies the boundaries of the [Bears Ears](#) and [Grand Staircase-Escalante](#) National Monuments.



## 2019

Legislature and Governor [direct](#) the state to pursue strategies for ensuring sound public lands management policies.

Legislature [establishes](#) the State Monument Act.

Legislature appropriates funds to public lands issues, including PILT study, wild horses/burros, judicial efforts, and federal coordination.

Federalism Commission [urges](#) CSG-West and NCSL to include federalism issues in future events, [urges](#) the Central Wasatch Commission to address concerns with its proposed federal [legislation](#), and issues an RFP for a consultant to prepare land management plans and an RFP for a consultant to represent the Legislature's positions on public lands issues in Washington D.C.

## 2014



Legislature [creates](#) the Commission for the Stewardship of Public Lands (CSPL) and [enacts](#) the Utah Wilderness Act.

PLPCO presents its final [land transfer report](#), which concludes that Utah could take ownership of lands and cover management costs.

## 2016



Legislature [enacts](#) the Utah Public Lands Management Act.

President [designates](#) Bears Ears as a national monument.

## 2018



Legislature [adopts](#) the [Statewide Resource Management Plan](#), on file with PLPCO.

Legislature [requires](#) the Commission on Federalism to study federal payments in lieu of tax (PILT) and work with the state's members of Congress to secure PILT equivalent to forgone property tax.

The Legislature and the Governor [urge](#) the President and Congress to pass legislation ensuring PILT is timely and equivalent to forgone property tax.

CSPL submits two letters to the LMC requesting approval to issue RPFs: one for a consultant to prepare [public land management plans](#) for certain federally-controlled lands in the state and one for a consultant to represent the Legislature's positions on public land issues in [Washington D.C.](#)

CSPL prepares, and the Legislature subsequently supports, legislation expressing [support](#) for CSPL issuing an RFP to hire a consultant to form land management plans.